

Text of Citation for award of Military Medal
to Corporal Colin Hammond

Corporal Colin Hammond enlisted in the Regular Army Supplement on 30th January; 1968 and was posted to 9th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment on the same day. He arrived in South Vietnam on 5th November, 1968 as a section commander with A Company.

On 8th April, 1969 1 Platoon, A Company struck a large enemy bunker system. Immediately the enemy engaged the leading section with automatic fire, wounding one member.

Corporal Hammond, who was acting platoon sergeant at the time, moved forward to the area of the leading section where, with complete disregard for his own safety, he assisted in the evacuation of the wounded man. During the next three hours, in spite of being constantly under fire, Corporal Hammond calmly moved from group to group, indicating targets, passing information and redistributing ammunition. At one stage, he moved even further forward and engaged the nearest enemy position from a range of 20 metres with three rockets. During this time, he was fully exposed to the fire of at least three bunkers.

Corporal Hammond's outstanding leadership, his calmness and sustained courage throughout the action, earned the highest respect from all members of the platoon. His exemplary conduct and devotion to duty were in the best traditions of the Australian Army.